

## **Council on Aging Board Meeting**

### **February 11, 2004**

#### **In Attendance:**

Chairman Paul Keegan, Vice-Chairman Helene Tanenholtz, Board members Al Crommett, Tim Swiss and Secretary John Concordia. Director Sharon Yager, Chet Olson (assisted living management consultant and volunteer) and Dolores Lake (SCPC representative) were also present. Board members Lillian Goodman and Helen McLaughlin were excused.

#### **1. Chairman's Comments**

The chairman opened the meeting at 10:05 am. The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and accepted by the board. The Finance Committee review of the FY2005 budget took place on 1/31/04—no changes anticipated from the COA requested budget at this time.

#### **2. Director's Comments:**

Sharon indicated that she would be attending an MCOA meeting on Friday 2/20/04, which will focus on Transportation. Information from the EOEA suggests that we can expect level funding for the next year.

#### **3. Liaison Reports:**

CMAA—no report.

Friends of the SCC, Inc.:--Helene reported that she had attended the Friends meeting yesterday—they are preparing to run the “May Madness” calendar fund raising program again this year—it has become a major source of income for them. They are anticipating completion of the Bocce courts for use early in the spring.

Shrewsbury Community Partnership for Children:--Dolores reported that funding had been received to help pay for tuition and services provided to those in need. Program activity is coordinated with Shrewsbury Community Services.

Elder Services of Worcester:/Outreach:--Jacquie Lofgren reported that she has processed 23 applications with SMOC for fuel assistance so far this season, which will continue until 4/30/04. She is also collaborating with the SELP “Share the Warmth” program since some clients may use both sources for help. With the Police Department’s Pat Babin, Jacquie is planning a “Safe Driving” training session on 2/26/04. The Shrewsbury library “outreach van” is now available on Thursday afternoons at the Senior Center for seniors wishing to use this service.

#### **4. Old Business:**

Transportation issues—some work is still required before the new van can go into operation—MOU between the responsible partners (Housing, Friends, and COA) needs to be completed before vehicle can be registered; radio communication needs to be installed, and lettering of the van needs to be modified slightly. On the positive side, we have received a \$500 donation from the Masons to help pay for operating expenses when we do get on the road. Chet Olson will be helping in coordinating with Shrewsbury Crossings and other potential partners in this operation as well.

Computer projects—Jackie Pratt, new website manager at the SELP, gave the board a summary of her activity and took photos of board members, which will be shown on the website. The Senior Edition is now on line for those readers who wish to read it electronically. We hope that will result in some cost savings in Newsletter operations in the future.

Health Fair--Chet Olson has offered to help on this year’s Health Fair Committee. Gabor Sebo volunteered to work on the data analysis for last year’s fair. October 1<sup>st</sup> is set as the tentative date for this year’s fair.

**5. New Business:**

Sharon reported on the results of the survey conducted in January to determine seniors' Movie preferences. It showed that recent releases were most desirable with comedy & drama the genres of choice. Attendance at the monthly showings has been averaging 85-100 persons. The movies now in DVD form are available on a "free loan" basis to seniors who may wish to see them at home.

**6. Other:**

Some discussion was held with regard to the volunteer recognition program planned for April. Sharon will try to have the program coincide with the National Volunteer Week Program.

*Respectfully submitted,  
John Concordia, Secretary*